CERTAINE
LETTERS
Sent from
Sir IOHN HOTHAM,
Young HOTHAM, the Major of HULL, and others.

Intercepted, and brought to Court to His Majesty, *April* 16.

OXFORD,
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READER,

THese Intercepted Letters which we here impart to thee are exactly printed without the least alteration of word or spelling from the Originalls which the Printer hath in his custody under the Authors owne hands and seales.

BIBLIOTHECA BODLEIANA

The first letter superscribed to Mr Pym, } *From Sir*
The second to Sir Matthew Boynton, *and* Mr Nye, } John Ho-
The third to Sir Thomas Barrington, } tham.

The fourth to Sr Philip Stapleton, } *From Young* Hotham.
The fifth to one Mr Darly, }

The sixth to Mr Pell[illegible] *of Hull from the Major and others of that incorporation.*

1st

FOR MY MVCH HONOVRED friend IOHN PYM Esquire.

Sir,

Received yours of the 4 of *Aprill* with the Orders inclosed, for which I desire you will present my humble service to the House, I heare from many of my friends as well as from yourselfe, the jealousies was soe uppon mee by reason of that fact of Sir *Hugh Cholmeley's*, it is the Evening Crownes the day, and I hope to make it in the end well appeare they were without cause, I confesse, I much marveile how such things should find the least beleife, being that I have ever since I was trusted by you in this imploiment served you to the best of my Judgment, not according to the strict letter of my Commission, but have acted all things both here and in other places that I thought might conduce to the advancement of your service. I have now sent some good force both of horse and foote into *Lincolneshire*, and my sonne with them to the aid of our freinds there, I assure you if Prince *Rupert* with his forces come downe into these parts, unlesse you send forces downe to attend upon him, all these parts will be in very bad estate, if there were any considerable forces to fight with my Lord of *Newcastle*, before his new raised men be with exercise made soldiers, truly I beleeve the victory would not be very difficult, but if you suffer Prince *Rupert* and him to joyne together, though souldiers that are now of noe value will within a while be as good as the other.

That businesse of *Scarbrough* Castle of which I writ to you in my last letter is fallen out unfortunately, for Captaine *Bushell* after he had surprised the Castle and was in full possession of it dispatch't a messenger to mee for instant aid, which I

presently sent him with two Catches, he in the meane time most treacherously delivered the Castle, and had the impudence to come to mee to *Hull*, I have clapt him up close prisoner, and intend to call him to a Councell of warre, there to bee punished according to his Demerits, if such Villaines be not made examples hoe man will be deterr'd from doing ill.

I have received your order for the customes and have received of Mr *Somerfield* betwixt foure and five hundred pound, being all he had in his hand, my order is for the time to come, & this was of mony in his hand before the receipt of my order, therefore I pray you Sir by the next post send him a discharge for that mony, which I have promised him to procure. the customes by reason of the decay of trade heare I feare will not be above 100 l. in the weeke at most, which you know how fart short it will come of our pay, I shall therefore intreat that you will not faile to speede us downe money, for in good faith else your affaires will suffer irrecoverably without my power to helpe it. I have during almost all the time of your businesse mainteined 4 troopes of horse, 4 troopes of dragoones, a Regiment of foot without any charge to you more then the *publique faith*, I conceive then you may be better satisfied to pay this garrison which cannot shift without it, Sir this is all I have for the present but his best respect who ever is

Your most humble servant

Hull *the* 7th *of April* 1643. IOHN HOTHAM.

Postscript.

Sir, you must needs send us down two *Demi-Cannon*, and we shall make a shift for the rest: There is one approach to the towne and we want great peices to hinder that, so as you must needs send us downe two *Demi-Cannon*, we sent you divers good ones from hence, if you send them downe I pray doe it by the next Ship and send bullets with them.

For

2.

For my much honoured friends Sir *Mat-thew Boynton* Knight and Baronet, and Master *Nay* Preacher of Gods Word, these.

Sir,

I Received yours of the 4 of *Aprill*. and in a letter from Sir *William Stricland*, the order for receiving the Customes. they were usually before these ill times 7 and 800l a weeke, I feare they will not be for the present 100l a weeke. soe that you see in what case we are at, I desire you will doe the utmost with our friends, that the 6000l whereof I have had one may be sent speedily downe, truely I am driven to my wits end for monies. The newes you heard of my Lord *Fairefax* losse was too true, he had 700 of his Club men Caried prisoners into *Yorke* where they now are. My Lord *Fairefax* is now at *Leedes*, and my Lord *Newcastle* is drawen with most of his forces into the West: Major *Jefford* is Battering *Pomfret* Castle, while the other increaseth in strength and reputation; we take it heere for granted Prince *Rupert* is comming Northward, if some stronge forces march not in the Backe of him, our forces in *Yorkeshire* will subsist but a while. My sonne at the Extreame earnest solicitation of our *Lincolneshire* friends, is to morrow settinge forwards to their assistance, with some troopes of horse and two strong companies of foote, he is to command in chiefe all their forces, I hope with Gods blessing he will give a good account of his actions. In the Businesse of *Scarbronge* Castle we are betrayed. *Bushell* hath surrendered the Castle; and my Catches I sent to his aid, like fooles contrarie to my expresse order entered the Haven, and are surprised. yet had *Bushell* the impudence to come to *Hull*, where I have him fast, and intend to Judge him according to his deserts by a Councell of war, such villaines cannot suffer sufficiently. For those letters of Marte,

I thinke

I thinke it not amiſſe to leave them for the preſent: If it were not for thoſe fooliſh Jealoſies (which I endeavour to avoyd) I date ſay at this time I could have done the Parliament more ſervice then all the actions I ever did them was worth; but I dare not adventure upon it I ſaw my ſelfe ſo much miſtaken, as God willing it ſhall well appeare in the End: Sr I am ſoe much your debtor for your ſo painfull a journey as I know not how to requite. But upon all occaſions you ſhall ever finde mee

Your moſt faithfull friend

Hull 7th 1643.

JOHN HOTHAM.

Poſtſcript.

We heare there is an Order of Parliament for the ſequeſtration of the ſpirituall liveings of the malignant prieſts, if it be ſo theire is three good livings, within 10 miles of *Hull*, the leaſt worth 200l *per annum*, I could diſpoſe to three good friends: I pray ſee what may be done in it.

If their be any good to be done for the ſequeſtrations of theſe livings Maſter *Nie*, my Coſen *Salt-marſhe*, and my ſonne *Charles* might well ſupply thoſe three places, and they are within the protection of *Hull*; the livings are *Bainton*, *Elton*, *Lockington*.

For

3d

For my much honoured friend Sir THOMAS BARRINGTON Knight, these.

Sir,

I Received yours of the 29 of *March*, and must give you many thanks for the expressions of your love and favour to me; but those jealousies that I heare are raised upon me, I hope in God it shall well appeare that as I have ever abhorred from the deceaving of the least private freind that trusted me, I shall much more be farre from betraying a trust put upon me by so great a body as the House of Parliament. It is the evening Crownes the day.

I heare that this unfortunate businesse of Sir *Hugh Cholmelies* did in the opinion of many reflect upon me, but truely without all cause, as shall well appeare in the end. Captaine *Bushell* as I writt in your former letters had ceased on *Scarbrough* Castle and dispatch't away a post to me to send him aide, which I suddainely sent him in two Catches, but he as I conceive hath treacherously furrender'd up the Castle, and my Catches coming thither, contrary to my order entred the place, and weare both surprised; Captaine *Bushell* as soone as he had yeilded upp the Castle had the impudence to come hither to *Hull*, I suppose with the intent to work some further mischeife, but I have clapt him close, and intend to call him to a Councell of warre, for betraying the Castle which he had once in his power, and my Catches; and if such villains be not punished noe man will be true.

My Lord *Fairefax* hath 700 of his clubb-men slaine and taken prisoners, his quitting his quarters at *Selby* being as we conceive against all reason, and I feare will prove prejudiciall

to his affaires, My Lord of *Newcastles* forces are many of them gonne towards the west, God send us a good issue, Sir I have no more at this but his best respects who ever is

Your faithfull freind to serve you,

Hull the 7th of Aprill 1643.

IOHN HOTHAM.

For

4th.

For my much honored brother Sir *Philip Stapylton* Knight theſe preſent.

Noble Sir,

I Doupt not but you that are upon the * * * have a great deale better intelligence then we can expect here, yet ſomething ſees the by-ſtander that the gamſter doth not. I have ſome cauſe to beleive that a very great part of the Kings Army will with ſpeed march from *Oxford* to *Yorke*, and that *Oxford* will be left only with the Kings Perſon and ſome 3000 to guard it, and countenance his party; and the 2 Armies be joyned, if you follow not, you may eaſily gueſſe in what condition theſe Northern counties will be in, that now can hardly defend themſelves. Sir, I ſhall not take upon me to offer any thing to you in a buſineſſe of ſo great weight as this, but to deſire from you ſome directions for the management of our buſineſſe here, for my Lord *Faireſax* lies in the Weſt, wee in the Eaſt, and ſome few at *Lincoln*, ſo divided as neither able to do the publike good nor our ſelves. My Lord *Fairfax* hath I doupt preſuming too much upon the fooliſh clubb-men loſt a matter of 700 of them, yett is in condition good enough yett to keepe from being broken if it be well managed, as Mr *Stockdale* will doe it you will think; the worſt is leaving *Selby*, *Cawood* and thoſe quarters he hath put himſelfe out of any poſſibility of being ſupplied with ammunition; *Sir*, if the Counſells at Court alter not, this was the laſt reſolution. My Lord *Newcaſtle* hath raked up a great many men but wants armes for ſome; Sir *Hugh Cholmely* hath given us the ſlip, and Captaine *Buſhell* tooke the Caſtle for us one day, and let them have it the next. THE SCOTS ARE SCOTS, ALL'S LOST HERE WITH TRUSTING TO THEM. Sir

John Seton hath betrayed them in *Lancashire*. Your goods are all safe at *Hull*, and the quicke goods in *Holderneſſe*, Colonell *Boynton* never toucht any of them; I thought it was time to remove them when Sir *Murmaduke* had ſent for his from them. I have ſent 2 good Foote companies to help them in *Lincolne-ſhire*, and will follow my ſelfe preſently. Sir, I ſhall ever remaine your moſt affectionate Brother to ſerve you

Beverly *Aprill* 7. 1643. IOHN HOTHAM

Poſt ſcript.

Sir, if our army follow the Prince you will have 5 or 6000 good men to joyne with you, if you delay time they may well come to be broken.

For

For my much honored friend HENRY DARLY Esquire these present.

Sir,

I Should be glad to see our BRETHREN then to heare of them, *they have talked of comming long, but all is words*, and the enemy mightily strengthens in the mean time. *I would the Treaty were at an end, for I think neither North, nay nor South intend it, and I have some reasons to believe so; and so I wish with all my hart we might hancker no more after it but fall to good earnest. Bushell* hath as basely given up the Castle, as he seemed bravely to regaine it, and hath to boote betrayd our two Catches with 10 peice of ordinance and 80 men that was sent from *Hull* to releive it: wee have him close prisonnier and intend the Counsell of war to proceed against him according to his high and Capitall offence. My Lord *Fairfax* his sudden quitting of his strong quarters upon the rivers hath taken all hopes from him of being supplied eyther with forces or ammunition from hence. we heare Prince *Rupert* is comming downe with 6000 horse to the Queene, and then you will think this Country will be in a good condition, unlesse our army follow fast which I am afraid they will not. That *unlucky over-swelling commission hath undone all our businesse*, Master *Stockdale* and his complices have with it given that discontent that *all men of courage have left them but their owne clan*. I assure you, you will find my Lord *Newcastles* Army very numerous, and many good Commanders, and if they have time they will make the soldiers good

too. Sir, if our army follow not, your party here will danger to be broken, Sir I will trouble you noe longer but remayne

Beverly April 7th 1643. *Your most affectionate friend to serve you.*

IOHN HOTHAM.

Postscript.

I have sent two very good foot companies into *Lincolneshire* and intend to follow as soone as I can. *Sir, I heare the Lords would have you disavow the Captaines for shooting at* * Birlington, *pray tell all my friends my opinion, that if you doe, you will discourage all men of honor or worth to serve you.*

* Where the Queene landed.

For

6th.

For the worshipfull PEREGRINE PELHAM Esquire, one of the Burgesses of Parliament for the Towne of *Kingston* upon *Hull*, at his lodging in *Wolstable* markett in *Westm.* these.

Sir,

We are glad to understand by your Letters that you have procured a warrant from the Committee for the ordnance to be sent hither, being assured you wil now hasten them away with all speed (as we much desire:) But withall we thought fitt to signifie unto you, that (as the case stands) some care had need to be taken by the shipps that bring them, and other our Neighbours at *London*, for convoy; or otherwise that they come well appointed; for since our last writeing unto you, *Scarbrough castle* which was then taken by Captaine *Bushell* (and as was thought) for the Parliament, is delivered up to the Earle of *New-castles* Forces; and (as is reported) by Captaine *Bushells* treachery: who notwithstanding that his fact returned hither, thinking (as it seemes) to brave it out; but is now Sir *John Hothams* prisoner in the Gaole upon suspicion of his voluntary betraying the Castle; which if it prove true, he deserves no lesse: for by reason of Sir *John Hothams* credulity of *Bushells* fidelity; he forthwith upon *Bushells* takeing of the Castle, sent him up (as he desired) some men, ordinance, powther, and amunition in two of his Catches and a Pyncke; who fearing no harme, the two Catches went boldly into *Scarbrough*, and were there surprised by the Malignant forces, and the men taken prisoners; which the pyncke perceiving returned hither safe: And now (as wee heare) these two Catches are well manned and provided; and are roving upp and downe the coast waiting their opportunity of prise. Therefore wee

pray

pray you use your discretion in giving notice hereof to our Neighbours. This is all wee have at present, save the remembrance of our loving respects to your selfe and Mrs *Pelham*, and so taking leave wee rest

Your very loving freinds

Kingston *upon* Hull *the* 7th *of Aprill.* 1643.

Tho. Rickes Maior,
Lancellot Roper,
Jno Barnard,
Robbert Morton,
N. Denman,
William Popple,
Joseph Blandes,
Henry Barnard.

FINIS.